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Maine H1N1 Influenza ("Swine Flu") Update

Summary of Information and Activities for Friday, June 5, 2009, 5 PM *4 new cases reported*

Flu info on the Internet: http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/swine-flu-2009.shtml

Maine Data:

- 20 confirmed H1N1 cases and 1 probable case have been identified among Maine residents, along with 5 out of state residents who were ill and tested while visiting Maine, for an overall total of 26. This total includes new reports of 1 case in York County and 3 cases in Cumberland County, two of which are jail inmates.
- National Data: US CDC reports a13,217 confirmed and probable cases and 27 deaths (http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/investigation.htm).
- International Data: WHO reports 21,940 cases in 69 countries (http://www.who.int/csr/don/en/).

Recent Updates:

Case finding:

- Four new adult Maine residents were identified with H1N1 today, including 1 case in York County and 3 cases in Cumberland County. All are confirmed diagnoses.
- Two of the Cumberland diagnoses occurred among inmates of the Cumberland County Jail. One inmate became ill on June 2nd and was isolated from other inmates just after symptoms appeared, and is recovering. A second inmate from the same jail pod was diagnosed today, and is also recovering and was isolated when symptoms arose. The Maine CDC, Cumberland County Sheriff Mark Dion and his staff, other Cumberland County and City of Portland officials held a conference call Friday afternoon to discuss strategies. The Cumberland County Jail will be following the US CDC's Guidance for Correctional Facilities, which can be found at: http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/correctional_facilities.htm. Some specific strategies from this guidance include the following:
 - There will be enhanced daily monitoring of all inmates in the pod where the ill inmate originated, including such measures as daily temperatures and symptoms check;
 - The entire inmate population will be monitored daily for symptoms:
 - Inmates with any influenza like illness (fever 100.4 or above and sore throat or cough) will be kept in medical isolation;
 - Notices will be placed at the entrance of the jail asking any visitor who has influenza like illness symptoms not to visit;
 - Notices will be placed at the entrance of the jail notifying the public of H1N1 in the jail;
 - Some social distancing measures may be implemented during visitation, which already normally includes plexi glass shields between visitors and inmates;
 - Correctional staff will be monitored and those with underlying chronic illness working in the inmate's pod may be considered for reassignment to another pod.

These measures taken are similar to what Maine CDC has recommended to correctional facilities in past outbreaks of seasonal influenza and other such infectious diseases. State, County, and City officials will stay in close contact over the coming days to mitigate the spread of H1N1.

A total of 26 cases have been identified in Maine to-date, including 21 Maine residents and 5 visitors to Maine.
Among Maine residents, 13 cases have now been identified in Cumberland County, 7 in York County, and 1 in Penobscot County. The five out-of state residents were tested in York County, Hancock County, Lincoln County (2 diagnoses) and Knox County.